

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The priority claim made in the present invention is believed to be proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.78. In particular, this priority claim satisfies the following elements of 37 C.F.R. §1.78.

First, under 37 C.F.R. §1.78(a)(1), the present application is a non-provisional application claiming the benefit of a prior-filed copending non-provisional application. Lars Gronroos is the inventor named in both the present and prior-filed applications.

Per 37 C.F.R. §1.78(a)(1)(ii), the prior-filed application is complete as set forth in § 1.51(b).

Further, in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.78(a)(2)(i), by the amendment made herein, the present application has been amended to contain a reference to the prior-filed application. This reference identifies the prior-filed application by application number (consisting of both the series code and serial number) and filing date of said prior-filed application. No cross-references have been made to any other related application, as cross-references are neither required nor deemed to be appropriate in this case.

In compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.78(a)(2)(ii), the reference to the prior-filed application is being submitted in a timely manner; *i.e.*, within the pendency of the present (the "later-filed") application.

As the present application is one filed under 35 U.S.C. 111(a) and before November 29, 2000, the reference to the prior-filed application is being submitted within the statutory filing period as cited in 37 C.F.R. §1.78(a)(2)(ii)(B).

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.78(a)(2)(iii), the reference to the prior-filed application has been inserted in the first sentence following the title of the application, and therefore no further application data sheet is believed to be required for submission at this time.

The provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.78(a)(iv) through 37 C.F.R. §1.78(c) do not apply to the present application, and are therefore not addressed herein.

No surcharge is believed to be required for the submission of this priority claim, as the claim is being submitted within the statutory period provided by 37 C.F.R. §1.78(a)(2)(ii). If this belief is in error, however, please charge whatever fees may be due to Baker & Daniels' Deposit Account No. 02-0390. The undersigned is an authorized user of this deposit account.

The undersigned believes that all the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.78 have been met, as outlined in this Remarks/Arguments section. Prompt acceptance of the priority claim, and amendment of the present application, is respectfully requested. In the meantime, if there are questions or concerns that the Examiner may easily address by telephone, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at 317-237-1029.

Respectfully submitted,



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